

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4 and 5 as follows. Please add new claims 6-10 as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Amended) A pinch roller unit, adapted to be disposed on a ~~main~~ deck of a magnetic recording/reading apparatus on which a head drum and a capstan are disposed, to move in relation to movement of a ~~sub-deck~~ movable member, which is disposed to ~~slide~~ move on the ~~main~~ deck, to bring a tape into close contact with the capstan, the pinch roller unit comprising:

a pivoting lever, rotatably disposed on the ~~main~~ deck to pivot towards the capstan in relation to movement of the ~~sub-deck~~ movable member ~~in a loading direction~~;

a pinch roller, rotatably disposed at an end of the pivoting lever and adapted to be brought into contact with the capstan during loading of the ~~sub-deck~~ movable member; and

a torsion spring that is stressed by being pushed by ~~the sliding~~ a sliding member sliding in at least one direction transverse of the ~~main~~ deck, to push the pivoting lever towards the capstan.

2. (Original) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the torsion spring is coaxially connected with the pivoting lever and prevented from being released from the pivoting lever.

3. (Original) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the torsion spring is stressed and released over a predetermined angle by being pushed and released by the sliding member.

4. (Amended) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one transverse direction is transverse to the movement of the ~~sub-deck~~ movable member.

5. (Amended) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pivoting lever includes a protrusion, such that when the ~~sub-deck~~ movable member is loaded into the magnetic recording/reading apparatus the ~~sub-deck~~ movable member comes in contact with the protrusion and pushes the pivoting lever.

6. (New) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the movable member is a sub-deck capable of sliding on the deck in loading and unloading directions.

7. (New) A pinch roller unit, adapted to be disposed on a main deck of a magnetic recording/reading apparatus on which a head drum and a capstan are disposed, to move in relation to movement of a sub-deck, which is disposed to slide on the main deck, to bring a tape into close contact with the capstan, the pinch roller unit comprising:

a pivoting lever, rotatably disposed on the main deck to pivot towards the capstan in relation to movement of the sub-deck in a loading direction;

a pinch roller, rotatably disposed at an end of the pivoting lever and adapted to be brought into contact with the capstan during loading of the sub-deck; and

a torsion spring that is stressed by being pushed by a sliding member sliding in at least one direction transverse of the main deck, wherein the movement is transverse to the movement of the sub-deck, to push the pivoting lever towards the capstan.

8. (New) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein the torsion spring is coaxially connected with the pivoting lever and prevented from being released from the pivoting lever.

9. (New) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein the torsion spring is stressed and released over a predetermined angle by being pushed and released by the sliding member.

10. (New) A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein the pivoting lever includes a protrusion, such that when the sub-deck is loaded into the magnetic recording/reading apparatus the sub-deck comes in contact with the protrusion and pushes the pivoting lever.